

State of Oklahoma  
Oklahoma Library Commission  
MRS. J. R. DALE, SECRETARY  
Oklahoma City

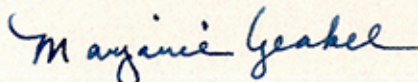
July 28 1950

Mr. R. W. Davis  
Home Investment Company  
107 East Third Street  
Bartlesville, Oklahoma

Dear Mr. Davis:

Both Mrs. Dale and Miss Babcock are out of the state just now and so will not reply at once to your letter of July twenty-seventh. The letter will be brought to their attention.

Very truly yours



Mrs. Yeakel  
Assistant



imperiling our freedom and our civilization."

7-28-50  
**Letters To  
The Editor**

Bartlesville, Oklahoma  
July 27, 1950

To The Editor:

At a recent meeting of the city commissioners, I made a personal protest against the new library ordinance. By means of this letter, I wish to make the protest public.

I told the commissioners that I did not like the ordinance because it puts too much power over the library in their hands. Centralization of authority is a dangerous thing whether in national, state or local government.

Acting on that ordinance, the commissioners recently fired all members of the library board and appointed an entirely new board. This action was taken in spite of the fact that the old board, in accordance with the request of the commissioners, had made a careful investigation of the library and had submitted an excellent report which satisfactorily answered the accusations of subversive material in the library.

Again acting on that ordinance, the commissioners, without even giving the new library board a chance to act, fired Miss Ruth Brown, who has been the trusted and respected head of the library for thirty years. She was dismissed without cause because the present or-

dinance gives the commissioners such power.

We do not need to be conquered in war by a totalitarian power to lose our liberty. Whenever any person in any community is denied the rights guaranteed to him under the Constitution, whenever the local authorities assume power which violates the principles of justice which are the very foundations of our American democracy, then all the people of that community have lost a portion of their liberty.

All the people of Bartlesville have lost some of their liberty if they allow the recent action of the city commissioners to go unchallenged.

Sincerely yours,  
Mrs. F. E. Rice



—World Staff Photo

### OUSTED LIBRARIAN

Miss Ruth Brown, 59-year-old former Bartlesville city librarian who was dismissed by officials after 31 years of service, uses her enforced vacation to catch up with personal correspondence. Miss Brown has been under fire since last March when a citizens committee charged that the library was circulating Communist literature.